

GEORGE ADAMSKI: AN HISTORICAL NOTE

By Eric Herr (San Diego, California)

As those aware of UFO history know, the publication in 1953 of the book *Flying Saucers Have Landed* by Desmond Leslie and George Adamski was an event of exceptional importance to both the conception of UFOs by students of the subject and to the public awareness of them. Because the controversy that followed Adamski's writings continues to this day, it may be of some value to put the comments of one of his alleged scientific witnesses on record. I located this man, Gene Luther Bloom, after having by chance read again Adamski's references to him on pages 174 through 177 of *Flying Saucers Have Landed*.

First, what George Adamski said: "Then late in 1949 four men came into the café at Palomar Gardens... One of these men was Mr J.P. Maxfield, and another was his partner, Mr G.L. Bloom, both of the Point Loma Navy Electronics Laboratory near San Diego..."

"They asked me if I would co-operate with them in trying to get photographs of strange craft moving through space..."

"I asked them then where I should look to be most likely to see the strange objects which they were asking me to try to photograph... The Moon was decided upon as a good spot for careful observation."

"Thus, when the military requested my co-operation in trying to photograph strange objects moving through space, with the aid of my 6-inch telescope, I was more than willing..."

"And it was not too long after this meeting that I succeeded in getting what I deemed at the time to be

two good pictures of an object moving through space..."

"Some days later, Mr Bloom stepped into the place... I handed him the two photographs which I had taken. I asked him to pass them on to Mr Maxfield for examination and for the records. He said he would." (End of statement by George Adamski.)

In my interview with him on July 19th, 1988, Mr Bloom said that he and his colleague at the Naval Electronics Laboratory, Joseph Maxfield, had only stopped at the café where Adamski worked to have a brief lunch before continuing up the road to the Hale Observatory on Palomar Mountain. He said further that they were not there to ask for George Adamski's co-operation in any way, and, until meeting him, did not even know of his interest in flying saucers. He also said that neither he nor Maxfield instructed Adamski on how to photograph the saucers, and did not accept any photographs for analysis by the Naval Electronics Laboratory or for any other purpose. Mr Bloom's final comment to me was that "Everything Adamski wrote about us was fiction, pure fiction".

At the conclusion of Mr Herr's article is the following handwritten statement by Mr Gene L. Bloom:-

"Summary above of my conversation via phone call on 19 July is correct.

If anything is printed, I would appreciate seeing".

(Signed): GENE L. BLOOM

THE "GREAT MARTIAN SCARE" . . . OF TWO FRENCH UFOLOGISTS WHO "NOW THINK BETTER" AND HAVE CHANGED THEIR MINDS!

Pier Luigi Sani
(Translation from Italian)

For this very important article, by one of Italy's foremost UFO researchers, we are indebted to the Editor of *Il Giornale dei Misteri* of Firenze, from issues Nos. 166 and 167 of which (June and July/August, 1986) we have translated it. As we reported in *It Didn't Happen!* (FSR 31/2), and as we have indicated in various places since then, it is evident that for some time past a new phase has been under way, especially in France, in the brainwashing operation now being conducted against mankind. "Good money" is probably available for those who are prepared to help to spread the idea that all reports of UFOs are due to mis-perception or mass-psychosis or hoax. We shall perhaps not be far wrong if we interpret all this as meaning that the "take-over" here is reaching a more advanced stage.

In *It Didn't Happen!* we have already given a brief account of the book *La Grande Peur Martienne (The Great Martian Scare)* by the French writers Gérard Barthel and Jacques Brucker. Pier Luigi Sani has, however, devoted two long articles to this curious book, and in view of its great importance we have thought it well worth while to provide our readers with a full translation of what the Italian investigator has to say about it. — Editor